

## ASQUITH CLASHES WITH EX-PREMIER

Storm in Commons Over the  
Anti-Lords Issue.

LORD BALFOUR REPULSED

Resolution Carries, 334 to 236, Limiting Duration of Parliament from Seven Years to Five, and Lower Branch Adjourns in Turmoil After Rebukes and Counter Rebukes.

London, April 14.—This was a tempestuous evening in the House of Commons. Scenes of excitement and anger succeeded one another and at the time of adjournment the tempers of some of the members were so aroused that there is little doubt that there would have been a fight but for the intervention of peacekeepers.

The government's anti-Lords resolution was being debated. Closure was to be applied at 7:30 and a vote taken. Within a few minutes of 7:40 Premier Asquith tried to make his expected statements regarding the course the government would pursue if the House rejects the resolution. The opposition resented this because the impending closure would preclude any discussion.

Ex-Premier Balfour led a skillful attack, taking advantage of the rules of the House to interrupt the premier's statement. It then became a battle of strategy between Asquith and Balfour. The latter invoked the support of the chairman of committees, and after a keen tussle won a victory, obtaining the chairman's ruling against the premier.

It would be difficult to give an adequate idea of the storm that raged around the contending leaders while this duel was in progress. Mr. Balfour's interposition at the outset was answered by equally tumultuous shouts by the opposition. The anger of his opponents grew to fury as Mr. Balfour, ignoring the babel, met Mr. Asquith at every point. The Liberal, Irish, and Laborites yelled "Shame!" and other rebukes at him, but he refused to be moved from his purpose of defending the right to discuss the premier's statement.

Taunts, jeers, and incoherent yells were hurled by the opposing parties, each utterance of the premier and the ex-premier and the chairman producing fresh storms, until the chairman ruled in Mr. Balfour's favor and asked Mr. Asquith to defer his statement. Triumphant Unionist cheers greeted their leader's victory.

Many members on the government side seemed to be in a state of confusion in their rage. Mr. Asquith took the situation calmly, but he seemed to be hurt. The gullotine then fell, and the resolution, aimed to cripple the House of Lords, was passed by a vote of 331 to 246.

The resolution limiting the duration of Parliament to five years instead of seven was carried, 334 to 236.

Mr. Balfour said:

"The premier has bought the Irish vote for his budget and bought it successfully, but the price he has paid is the dignity of his office and of all the great traditions of which he ought to be the guardian."

The house then adjourned amid much disorder.

HOOSIERS GIVE PLAY

"Deestrick Skule" Successfully Produced by Society.

INTRODUCE MANY SPECIALTIES

Ralph Barnard, in Singing of Faraday on "On Banks of Wabash," Fires Shots at Joy Riding Politicians—Thomas L. Jones as "Sentry William Bing" Scores Big Hit.

Members of the Indiana Society of Washington successfully produced a three-act comedy entitled, "Deestrick Skule," before a crowded house last night in Pythian Temple. It was a riot of laughter for over two hours. The scene of the play is laid at Blueberry Corners, Posey County, Ind., and the society has not had a more enjoyable time in its existence.

Representatives Dixon and Morrison, in costume, were in the cast, with other well-known Hoosiers, and the play, which showed good rehearsal, was interspersed with songs and humorous skits that kept the audience in an uproar. Ralph Barnard gave a parody of "On the Banks of the Wabash," which made a great hit, and Thomas L. Jones sang a topical song with allusions to Beveridge, Fairbanks, Marshall, and Taggart, which likewise scored. Mrs. A. W. Tracy's singing of "Little Tattle Tale" and her acting of it furnished great amusement. An essay on "Fies" by Mrs. E. J. Fouts received encore after encore, and her share of the entertainment was a distinctive feature.

H. W. Weber as the school teacher and George Weber as "Sam, Dipsey" handled their roles aptly. Incidentally, Will Ethel as one of the pupils gave an exhibition of his skill with the crayon. The cast, all acquiring themselves creditably, included the following:

School board—Raymond R. Dickie, Representative Martin A. Morrison, Representative Lincoln Dixon, and P. E. McCallip.

Applicants—Mrs. T. A. Ryman, Miss Mildred Best, Miss Jennie Springer, and H. W. Weber.

Visitors—Miss Minnie Curry, Mrs. Evers, and Miss Katherine Brooks.

Scholars—Mrs. Ed. Fouts, Mrs. F. E. McCallip, Mrs. T. L. Jones, Miss McCallip, Miss Kate Curry, Mrs. Allen Hastings, Mrs. R. B. Dickie, Mrs. P. McGraw, Mrs. A. W. Tracy, Mrs. Horace De Hart, Miss Johnson, Mrs. J. P. McCallip, Mrs. C. A. McGonigle, Miss Elizabeth Sherier, Chester Lambert, Thomas L. Jones, A. F. Hastings, T. A. Ryman, J. P. McCallip, C. A. McGonigle, J. B. Woodburn, H. A. C. Par, George Weber, W. J. Ethel, Ralph Barnard, and H. L. Kitchman.

Announcement was made that the next and last meeting before fall will take place the second Thursday in May. It is expected to make this meeting one of the most enjoyable of the season. It was also announced that a concert and dance would be given by the society in Odd Fellows Hall on April 29.

Following are the committees:

Reception—Mrs. E. D. Crumacker, Mrs. W. J. Ethel, Mrs. W. C. Cullen, Mrs. Harry E. Bearman, Mrs. Scott C. Rose, Mrs. F. E. McCallip, Mrs. E. F. Geyer, Mrs. J. A. Huston, Mrs. L. A. Gartin, Mrs. Theron E. Bell, Miss Anna B. Brown, Miss Alice R. Sanger, Miss Bertha F. Wolfe, Representative M. A. Morrison, Representative W. G. Bernard, J. G. Greenwalt, C. A. McGonigle, J. W. Weller, Chester Lambert, R. B. McKahan, J. W. Holcomb, J. P. McCallip, Henry H. Hefner, J. B. DeHart, Miss Mae Warner, and Miss Laura Jacques.

Entertainment—H. W. Weber, Mrs. Rose M. Dickie, Mrs. Emma B. Jones, Mrs. A. W. Tracy, and Mrs. Ed. Fouts.

## THE SHOWY HORSE.

I said: "I'll take Bucephalus and drive him twenty mile; he's always pawing in the barn, and puts on lots of style; he's suffering for exercise, he's eager for the fray, and he will fairly eat the road and throw the leagues away!" I hitched him up and started off; he fairly split the wind, and I was full of harmless pride, and held the reins and grinned. The charger trotted half a mile as though from mortar fired, and then he lost all interest, and seemed extremely tired. I wore out half a dozen clubs, and urged him to go fast; in vain! he loafed along the road and watched the snails whiz past; I pushed him on the homeward road for many a weary verst, and then I sold him to a friend, and now he's weinerwurst. I know a half a hundred men just like that foaming steed; they go to work as though they'd make their eager fingers bleed; they fuss and sweat and paw the ground, and make an awful din, but when the midday heat comes on, their energy's all in. I like the good old steady horse that plods along his way, as though determined that he'll earn his lodging and his hay; I like the quiet, earnest man, who buckles to his job without the sort of useless fuss that captivates the swab.

WALT MASON.

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## PRESIDENT TAFT'S SPEECH

"I am not entirely certain that I ought to have come to-night, but your committee assured me I should be welcome, even if I did not support all the views which were here to be advanced. I considered this movement represented a sufficient part of the intelligence of the community to justify my coming here and welcoming you to Washington."

"The difficulty I expect to encounter is this, at least it is a difficulty that occurs to me as I judge of my own feeling in cases in which I have an intense interest, to wit: That I am always a good deal more impatient with those who only go half way with me than I am with those who actually oppose me."

"Now, when I was sixteen years old, and was graduated from the Woodward High School in Cincinnati, I took for my subject 'Woman Suffrage,' and I was as strong an advocate of woman's suffrage as any member of this convention. I had read Mill's 'Subjection of Woman,' my father was a woman suffragist, and so at that time I was orthodox. But in the actual political experience which I have had I have modified my views somewhat."

**Approves Popular Government.**  
"In the first place, popular representative government we approve and support, because on the whole every class—that is, every set of individuals who are similarly situated in the community who are intelligent enough to know what their own interests are—are better qualified to determine how those interests shall be cared for and preserved than any other class, however altruistic that class may be. But I call your attention to two qualifications in that statement—one is that the class should be intelligent enough to know its own interests."

"The theory that Horatios or any uneducated, altogether unintelligent class is fitted for self-government at once, or to take part in government, is a theory that I wholly dissent from, but this qualification is not applicable to the question here. The other qualification to which I call your attention is that the class

should as a whole care enough to look after its interests, to take part as a whole in the exercises of political power if it is conferred."

"Now, if it does not care enough for this, then it seems to me that the danger is, if the power is conferred, that it may be exercised by that part of the class least desirable as political constituents and be neglected by many of those who are intelligent and patriotic and would be most desirable as members of an electorate." (Hisses from several parts of the hall.)

**Chides Those Who Hissed.**  
"Now, my dear ladies, you must show yourselves equal to self government by exercising, in listening to opposing arguments, that degree of restraint without which successful self-government is impossible. If I could be sure that women as a class in the community, including all the intelligent women most desirable as political constituents, would exercise the franchise, I should be in favor of it. At present there is considerable doubt upon this point."

"In certain of the States which have tried it, woman suffrage has not been a failure. It has not made, I think, any substantial difference in politics. I think it is perhaps possible to say that its adoption has shown an improvement in the body politic, but it has been tested only in those States where the population is sparse and where the problem of instructing such power to women in the concentrated population of great cities is not presented. For this reason, if you will permit me to say so, my impression is that the task before you in securing what you think ought to be granted in respect to the political rights of women, is not in convincing men, but it is in convincing the majority of your own class of the wisdom of extending the suffrage to them and of their duty to exercise it."

"Now, that is my confession of faith. More than this I ought not to say, and I hope you will not deem me ungracious in saying as much as I have said."

**Would Raise Country.**

"Any one who would say that a house could be conducted better by a man than a woman, would be regarded as insane. Then why cannot the women participate in the government of the country with as good results as do the stronger sex? Give them the right to the ballot, and you will raise your country to the height of attainable power and success."

President Anna Howard Shaw said:

"There is no period in history which is so difficult for people to understand as the time in which they are living, simply because it is their own time, and they are too close to its activities to render impartial judgment or too much influenced by their own environment to have a clear understanding of the relation of events to each other. Hence we are apt to have both an exaggerated opinion of our successes and to become too deeply depressed over our failures. The conditions prevailing in the body politic at the present time are filling the minds of many with an unreasonable fear of democracy and are creating a reaction against popular forms of government. We are becoming an infidel nation—not infidel in religion, but in the fundamental principles of democratic government."

"This fear might be well founded if we looked upon the arena as an aimless conflict of individuals seeking only personal ends. But the true reformer, one who views the progress of civilization

from the vantage ground of the perspective time, cannot fail to realize that underneath and through all the passion and strife, all the selfishness and misery, all the love and beauty, there is a constant working force to bring order, joy of confusion, peace out of discord, joy out of despair; in fact, they who work in hope must believe that there is a power which shapes our ends, roughs them as we may, and that the important thing in life's service is to bring ourselves into harmony with this power, and to work with it toward the final purposes of life."

**Making of Democracy.**

"The making of democracy" was the subject of a brief and forceful address by Frances Squire Potter, corresponding secretary of the national association. Among other things, she said:

"The realization of a democracy will mean the universality of the labor movement, the fruition and disappearance of the suffrage movement, the trevelance of the deepening into politics of eth Woman's Club movement, and the doom of philanthropy. It will mean also the perfection of the political settlement, together with the political machinery within which it works, and the reality of religion."

"We may not enter into it until religion permeates life, until mutual respect and dignity fill the place long occupied by jarring and warring factions. But when these great forces, as they are coming to do, understand one another and their common interests, the realization of the true democracy is at hand."

This morning, during the regular session of the convention, there will be memorial exercises for Henry B. Blackwell and William Lloyd Garrison. The speakers will be Mrs. Henry Villard, Catherine Waugh McCulloch, Jane Campbell, and President Anna Howard Shaw. The morning session will open at 10:15.

The College Woman's Suffrage Society will give a luncheon at the Arlington Hotel Saturday afternoon.

**GEN. BELL BACK AT DESK.**

Maj. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, U. S. A., Chief of Staff, was in the office in the War Department yesterday for the first time since the recent automobile accident in which he was injured. Gen. Bell will be relieved of his duties as Chief of Staff on April 22 next, when his tour of duty will expire.

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Continued from Page One.

his address and left the hall. "There is not a single statement in it that could be construed as opposed to woman suffrage. Every statement gives support to our cause. The only possible difference between the President's views and ours is in the line of demarcation as to what classes of men and women shall vote."

**Regrets Incident.**

"Just as he does not want undesirable women to be enfranchised, so we wish to restrict the right of ballot to men of only good character. The President and others cannot see this distinction. It is not just to act against the entire sex because a part may be undesirable."

The wildest enthusiasm was demonstrated at the conclusion of Mrs. Shaw's impromptu remarks. Her reference to the stand taken by the President in the matter of restriction of ballot rights was greeted with continued applause.

It was the sentiment about the corridors of the hotel after the adjournment of the meeting that the greatest harm was done the suffrage cause by the incidents of the evening. Every one interested in the suffrage question was discussing the affront offered the President. A prominent national officer of the association remarked:

"It was indeed a most discourteous affair. Not only Mr. Taft the President, and the greatest respect due him for that reason, but he came there, as the guest and at the repeated pleas of the Woman Suffrage Association. I am deeply grieved by the incident."

Mrs. Ella S. Stewart, of Chicago, recording secretary of the association, said the delegates did not construe the President's remarks as a general argument on suffrage, but as being directed solely to woman suffrage. For that reason she regarded his words as a personal reflection.

There were many other similar expressions, which plainly showed that the President's remarks have stirred up a hornet's nest in the annual convention.

**Owen Voices Plea.**

Every seat in the hall was occupied, with scores standing in the corridors and in the aisles, when the evening session was called to order by President Shaw. The chair was immediately turned over to Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery, the first vice president. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Ulysses G. B. Pierce. Senator Robert L. Owen, of Oklahoma, who has long been a champion of woman's rights, made a strong plea for equal suffrage. His subject was "Why women should have suffrage." Senator Owen said:

"The first and fundamental reason why women should have suffrage is the governing principle of a democratic form of government—that all men are equal. Women compose one-half of mankind, and I may say without fear, the better half at that."

"I stand ready to fight for woman suffrage in the face of 10,000 years of prejudice for this and other reasons. Woman is a human being, and as such has the right to equality with the rest of mankind. She is an American citizen under the Constitution and the law. In olden days, women took part in the town meetings and had a hand in the governmental affairs of the colonies. This right should not be denied them now."

"Another and greater reason why women should vote is this fact, that has been known for ages: No nation ever rises higher than the motherhood of that nation. Give them honor and equal voice in the affairs of the country and you will elevate that country to the pinnacle of greatest virtue and magnificent intelligence."

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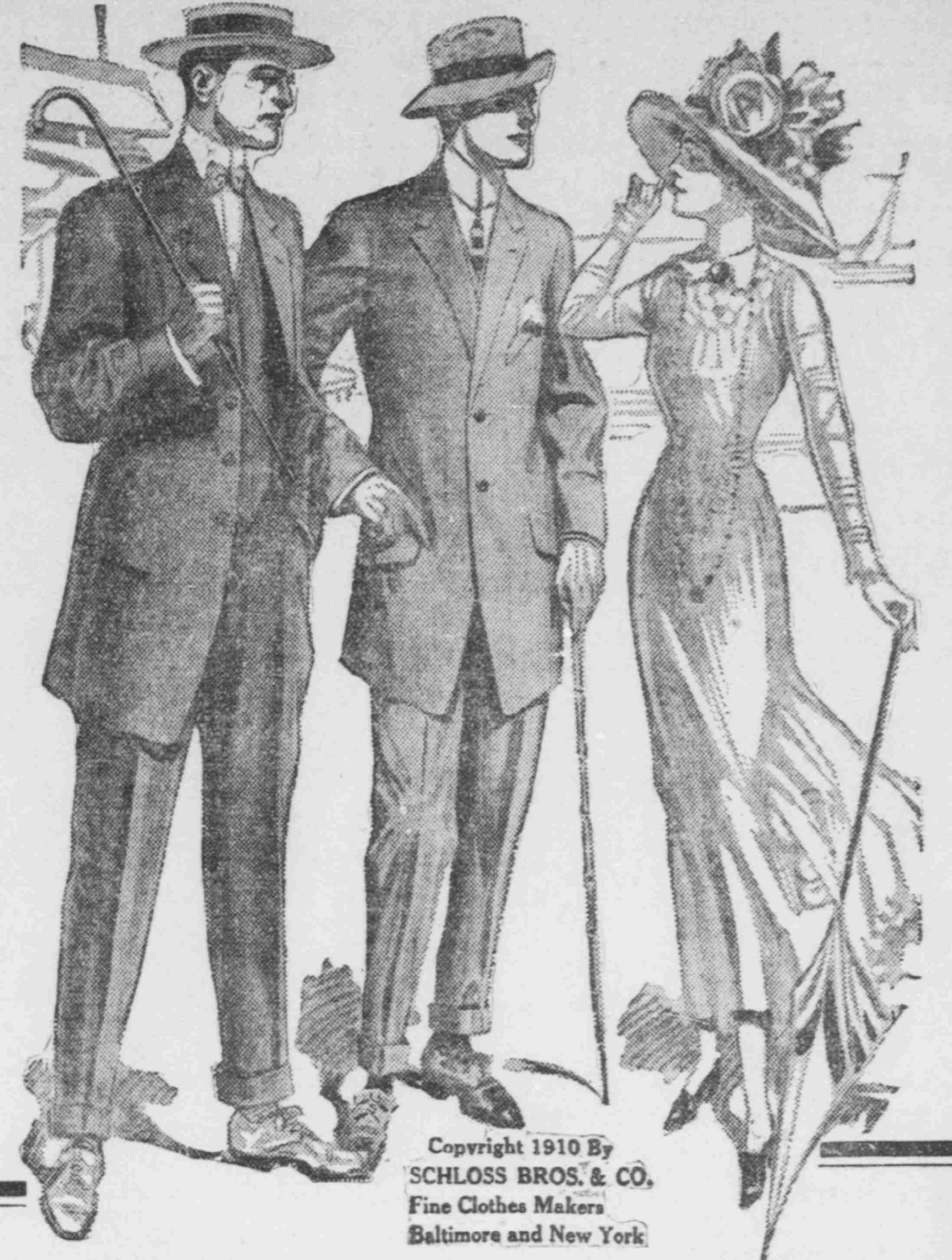
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## TARRIES BUT DAY IN HISTORIC VENICE

Gondola Ride and Chat with  
Abruzzi for Roosevelt.

Venice, April 14.—Col. Roosevelt arrived here quietly at 2:30 o'clock this morning. He was met and greeted by several friends, among them the American consul.

After breakfast the colonel in a gondola made a hurried visit to St. John's and St. Paul's, looked at the famous equestrian statue of Colleoni, took a glance at St. Mark's, viewed the Palace of the Doges and the museum, and then hustled back to the hotel.

The Duke of the Abruzzi's launch arrived just as the gun of the guardship sounded midday. The duke, in a dark lounge suit and a derby hat, was attended by an aid in full-dress military uniform. Here again was to be seen the almost royal distinction with which Col. Roosevelt is treated in Italy.

After forty-five minutes' conversation, the Duke of the Abruzzi left the hotel. Col. Roosevelt lunched in a private room. Meanwhile Archduke Ferdinand arrived at the hotel, and heard that Col. Roosevelt was there. He walked into the public dining-room with his wife and two men friends and looked around curiously as he proceeded to a table in the center of the room. Col. Roosevelt left before the archduke's party finished luncheon. A big party gave Col. Roosevelt a hearty send-off at the station.

A dispatch from Rome says:

"While he was at Genoa, Col. Roosevelt went to the Durazzo Palace with the purpose of inspecting the art gallery of the Marquis of Durazzo. The custodian informed him that he had received orders not to admit the colonel."

"The Marquis Durazzo is a rabid cleric, and the action of the custodian is attributed to the dispute between Col. Roosevelt and the Vatican."

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